

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

AI 1. (Original) A liquid-crystal-panel evaluating method for optically evaluating a liquid crystal panel comprising:

making polarized light in a predetermined state be incident upon the liquid crystal panel; and

increasing a ratio of a polarized component of specularly reflected light, formed as a result of reflection of the incident light, transmitted through a liquid crystal layer of the liquid crystal panel to form detection light in order to evaluate the panel based on the detection light.

2. (Currently Amended) The liquid-crystal-panel evaluating method of Claim 1 wherein said liquid crystal panel [further comprises] is a reflective liquid crystal panel.

Colmi 3. (Original) The liquid-crystal-panel evaluating method of Claim 1 further comprising disposing reflecting means at a back side of the liquid crystal layer of the liquid crystal panel.

4. (Currently Amended) A liquid-crystal-panel evaluating method according to Claim 1, wherein the polarized light is composed almost exclusively of a polarized component including a first vibration plane, and wherein the detection light primarily comprises a component of the specularly reflected light having the polarized component having the first vibration plane eliminated therefrom.

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5. (Original) A liquid-crystal-panel evaluating method according to Claim 4, wherein the detection light primarily comprises a polarized component including a second vibration plane that is virtually orthogonal to the first vibration plane, the polarized component including the second vibration plane extracted from the specularly reflected light.

6. (Currently Amended) A liquid-crystal-panel evaluating method for optically evaluating a liquid crystal panel including a liquid crystal layer_comprising:

making linearly polarized light including a first vibration plane be incident upon the liquid crystal panel; and

forming a polarized component of reflected light, formed by reflection of the incident light, including a second vibration plane substantially perpendicular to the first vibration plane, as detection light in order to evaluate the panel based on the detection light.

7. (Original) The liquid-crystal-panel evaluating method for optically evaluating a liquid crystal panel including a liquid crystal layer of Claim 6 further comprising disposing reflecting means at a back side of the liquid crystal layer, and wherein the linearly polarized light including the first vibration plane is made to be incident upon the liquid crystal panel from a front side of the liquid crystal layer.

8. (Original) A method of evaluating a liquid crystal panel according to Claim 1, wherein thickness of the liquid crystal layer is determined based on the detection light.

9. (Original) A method of evaluating a liquid crystal panel according to Claim

8, wherein the thickness of the liquid crystal layer is determined based on a location of a frequency or a wavelength at an extreme value of a spectrum of the detection light.

10. (Original) A method of evaluating a liquid crystal panel according to Claim 1, wherein whether or not there is any dust inside the liquid crystal layer is examined based on the detection light.

11. (Currently Amended) A liquid-crystal-panel evaluating device for optically evaluating a liquid crystal panel comprising:

polarizing illumination means for illuminating the liquid crystal panel with polarized light in a predetermined state; *sample*

detection light obtaining means for receiving specularly reflected light sent forth from the liquid crystal panel and increasing a ratio of a polarized component of the specularly reflected light transmitted through a liquid crystal layer of the liquid crystal panel in order to obtain detection light; and

light detecting means for detecting the detection light.

12. (Original) A liquid-crystal-panel evaluating device for optically evaluating a liquid crystal panel including a liquid crystal layer comprising:

polarizing illumination means for illuminating the liquid crystal panel with linearly polarized light including a first vibration plane; detection light obtaining means for receiving reflected light sent forth from the liquid crystal panel, and removing a polarized component of the reflected light including the first vibration plane in order to obtain detection light; and

light detecting means for detecting the detection light.

✓ 13. (Original) A liquid-crystal-panel evaluating device according to Claim 11, wherein the polarizing illumination means comprises a light source and polarizing means for obtaining the polarized light from the light emitted from the light source.

AI Cont. ✓ 14. (Original) A liquid-crystal-panel evaluating device according to Claim 13, wherein a polarized-light polarization axis of the polarizing means and a polarized-light absorption axis of the detection light obtaining means are substantially orthogonal to each other with reference to an optical axis.

✓ 15. (Original) A liquid-crystal-panel evaluating device according to Claim 11, further comprising means for determining thickness of the liquid crystal layer based on the detection light.

✓ 16. (Original) A liquid-crystal-panel evaluating device according to Claim 15, wherein the means for determining the thickness of the liquid crystal layer derives the thickness of the liquid crystal layer based on a location of a frequency or a wavelength at an extreme value of a spectrum of the detection light.

17. (Original) A liquid-crystal-panel evaluating device according to Claim 11, further comprising means for showing whether or not there is any dust inside the liquid crystal layer based on the detection light.

18. (Original) A liquid-crystal-panel evaluating device according to Claim 12, wherein the polarizing illumination means comprises a light source and polarizing means for obtaining the polarized light from the light emitted from the light source.

19. (Original) A liquid-crystal-panel evaluating device according to Claim 18, wherein a polarized-light polarization axis of the polarizing means and a polarized-light absorption axis of the detection light obtaining means are substantially orthogonal to each other with reference to an optical axis.

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20. (Original) A liquid-crystal-panel evaluating device according to Claim 12, further comprising means for determining thickness of the liquid crystal layer based on the detection light.

21. (Original) A liquid-crystal-panel evaluating device according to Claim 20, wherein the means for determining the thickness of the liquid crystal layer derives the thickness of the liquid crystal layer based on a location of a frequency or a wavelength at an extreme value of a spectrum of the detection light.

22. (Original) A liquid-crystal-panel evaluating device according to Claim 12, further comprising means for showing whether or not there is any dust inside the liquid crystal layer based on the detection light.

23. (New) A method of manufacturing a liquid crystal display device comprising:

forming a liquid crystal panel by bonding two substrates and injecting liquid crystal therebetween; and

evaluating the liquid crystal panel optically by using the liquid-crystal-panel evaluating method according to Claim 1.

24. (New) A method of manufacturing a liquid crystal display device

comprising:

forming a liquid crystal panel by bonding two substrates and injecting liquid crystal therebetween; and

evaluating the liquid crystal panel optically by using the liquid-crystal-panel evaluating method according to Claim 6.
